| Name of the State | 1998-99 | 1999-2000 | 2000-2001 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Kerala | 44 | 67 | 141 |
| Maharashtra | 529 | 1534 | 2570 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 15 | 36 | 50 |
| Orissa | 53 | 89 | 200 |
| Punjab | 8 | 15 | 50 |
| Rajasthan | 3 | 15 | 30 |
| Tamilnadu | 748 | 1874 | 2956 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 674 | 1220 | 1660 |
| West Bengal | 96 | 150 | 250 |
| Total | 6300 | 11607 | 20051 |

**Internet use in the country**

2665. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to encourage internet services in order to promote the Information Technology in the country;

(b) if so, the names of the big cities of Rajasthan and Orissa proposed to be linked by an International Gate-way Hub;

(c) by when approval is likely to be accorded by Government in this regard; and

(d) the number of Computer Information Centres set up till date by Government in each State, State-wise, indicating the funds allocated to each Centre?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) For Rajasthan and Orissa, international connectivity through Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited (VSNL) International Gate- ways at Delhi. Bangalore, Mumbai, Calcutta, Chennai and Pune with 34 Mbps connectivity is provided by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL). No international gateway has been planned in Rajasthan and Orissa by BSNL. However, six other Internet Service Providers have been given in-principle clearance for setting up of international gateways for internet at Jaipur, Al war, Kota, Udaipur, Jodhpur in Rajasthan as well as at Bhubaneswar in Orissa.

(d) There is no programme to set up Computer Information Centre. The Ministry of Information Technology is, however, implementing a scheme for setting up Community Information Centres (CICs) at 487 blocks headquarters of seven North-East States and Sikkim at sites selected by the State Governments. Thirty CICs have been set up as a pilot project during 2000 in the North-East region at an estimated cost of Rs. 15 crores, which includes maintenance and operational costs of CICs for an initial five year period. The Statewise location of thirty CICs is given in the Statement.

*(see* below). As the project is being implemented as a composite one, no Statewise/ CIC wise allocation of funds have been made.

**Statement**

*State-wise location of Community Information Centres*

| State | District | Block |
|---|---|---|
| Arunachal Pradesh | Papumpare | 1. Itanagar<br>2. Doimukh |
| Assam | Nagaon | 1. Barhampur<br>2. Batadrava<br>3. Binakandi<br>4. Dalonghat<br>5. Dhalpukhuri<br>6. Jugijan<br>7. Juria<br>8. Kaliabor<br>9. Kathiatoli<br>10. Khagarijan<br>11. Lowkhowa<br>12. Pachim Kaliabar<br>13. Pakhimoria<br>14. Raha<br>15. Rupahihat |
| Manipur | Imphal East | 1. Imphal East-1<br>2. Imphal East-II |
| Meghalaya | Ri Bhoi<br>East Khasi Hills | 1. Umsning<br>2. Myllieum |
| Mizoram | Aizwal District | 1. Tlangnuam<br>2. Aibawk |
| Nagaland | Kohima | 1. Kohima<br>2. Jakhama |
| Tripura | West Tripura<br>District | 1. Khowai<br>2. Bishalgarh<br>3. Mandai |
| Sikkim | East District | 1. Gangtok<br>2. Namchi . |